

Attorney Docket No.: tesa 1525-WCG
2100 Dr.He-ar

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicant(s) : Marc Husemann et al.
Serial No. : 10/077,658
Filed : February 15, 2002
For : LOW-OUTGASSING ACRYLIC PRESSURE-
SENSITIVE ADHESIVE COMPOSITIONS
Art Unit : 1771
Examiner : Elizabeth M. Cole

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October 14, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated 09/25/2003, Applicants elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-8, 12-13, drawn to an acrylic polymer-based adhesive, with traverse.

The Examiner has imposed a restriction requirement between claims 1-8, 12-13, drawn to an acrylic polymer-based adhesive, and claims 9-11 drawn to an adhesive tape comprising the adhesive.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement is respectfully requested. Any search of the adhesive itself is certain to include a search of the adhesive tape using it, and any search of the adhesive tape would also be expected to turn up the adhesive as well. How could one search for an adhesive tape without also finding out about the adhesives used for that tape? Accordingly, no additional burden would be placed on the Patent Office in searching both groups together. By contrast, a very great burden will be placed on Applicants if this restriction requirement is maintained. Applicants will be subjected to twice the cost and effort in prosecuting two patent applications for an invention that should have been included in one, and will also be subjected to the continuing expense of maintaining two separate patents, whereas only one should be required to cover the full invention.

In addition, an additional burden will be placed on the public, in that the full scope of Applicants' invention will not be ascertainable from a single patent, and the public will have to find and study two separate patents to ascertain the full scope of Applicants' exclusive rights.

The great additional burden that will be placed on Applicants and the public in maintaining the restriction requirement is far greater than the slight, if any, inconvenience that will be placed on the Patent Office in withdrawing the Restriction Requirement.

In the event that the Examiner does not find it possible to withdraw the

Restriction Requirement, it is respectfully requested that the non-elected subject matter be rejoined with the elected subject matter upon allowance of elected subject matter.


CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, applicant requests that this be considered a petition therefor. Please charge the required Petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to our Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

Respectfully submitted
NORRIS, McLAUGHLIN & MARCUS

By 
William C. Gerstenzang
Reg. No. 27,552

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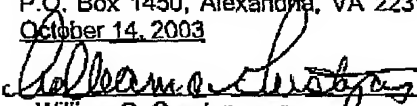
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on October 14, 2003


William C. Gerstenzang

Date: October 14, 2003